

**CLASS SPECIFICATION**  
**County of Fairfax, Virginia**

**CLASS CODE:** 3114

**TITLE:** ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST III

**GRADE:** S-25

**DEFINITION:**

Under limited supervision, performs highly skilled and/or specialized environmental health monitoring, control, inspection, and investigation work in one or more specialty areas: housing and vector (insects, animals, etc.), on-site sewage disposal (septic system)/private water supply (wells), consumer services (food service, milk, swimming pools, child care, etc.), air pollution, chemical hazards, and plan review; provides advanced level technical analysis and recommendations on complex environmental health issues; provides guidance and assistance to other staff members in the absence of the supervisor and as a lead worker on team projects; and performs related work as required.

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:**

This class is distinguished from the Environmental Health Specialist II class in that Environmental Health Specialist II incumbents perform full performance level environmental health work, but do not routinely conduct complex investigations and analysis requiring advanced skills.

This class is distinguished from the Environmental Health Supervisor class in that Environmental Health Supervisor incumbents provide supervision over Environmental Health Specialists IIs and IIIs and have technical skills in one or more areas.

**ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES:**

Gathers and records information on complaints, inspections, emergency calls, and requests for investigation/evaluations;

Extracts, inspects, tests and analyzes samples;

Designs and conducts advanced level surveys and studies in assigned specialty area(s);

Oversees and trains lower level staff in the field and on team projects;

May coordinate the efforts of Health Department personnel with those of other County, State, and Federal agencies on major projects and/or hazardous situations;

Prepares technical reports and official correspondence, and may review documents and reports prepared by lower level staff;

Enforces County, State, and Federal laws, codes, and regulations when violations are observed;

May perform technical analyses and evaluation of complex plans and specifications for specialty area(s);

Provides information and assistance to the public (including property owners, business operators, developers/real estate agents, engineering professionals), other County agencies and other jurisdictions;

Presents reports on Health Department activities at public meetings and responds to media inquiries on environmental health hazards and emergencies;

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Prepares summons requests, subpoenas and case histories;  
Testifies as an expert witness at court hearings.

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:**

Considerable knowledge of public health standards and advanced inspection/investigation procedures related to specialty area(s);

Thorough knowledge of methods and techniques used for prevention of disease caused by contaminated food, vectors, and other environmental hazards;

Knowledge of the concepts and principles of biology, chemistry, physics, and statistics;

Knowledge of, and the ability to interpret and enforce County, Federal, and State laws, codes, and ordinances governing public and environmental health;

Skill in applying methods and techniques of fact-finding, analysis and resolution to complex environmental health problems;

Skill in advanced sampling and analysis techniques related to specialty area (s);

Skill in public speaking and making presentations;

Ability to train and monitor the work of lower level and new environmental health professionals;

Ability to plan, organize, and conduct/coordinate complete inspection, investigation and survey projects which may involve the efforts of a variety of agency, County, State, and federal participants;

Ability to read, analyze, and interpret maps, plans, schematic drawings (including architectural plans and topographic plats);

Ability to read and interpret laboratory test results;

Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing;

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships;

Ability to operate a motor vehicle.

**EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS:**

Any combination of education, experience, and training equivalent to: Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Health, or a Bachelor's degree with at least (30) semester hours of course work in the physical or biological sciences; PLUS

Two years experience in the environmental health field, at or equivalent to, the level of Environmental Health Specialist II.

**CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES REQUIRED:**

Possession of a valid Motor Vehicle Driver's License. Must provide automobile for personal transportation in the performance of official duties.

REGRADED: July 8, 2006

REVISED: August 15, 1997

REVISED AND RETITLED: July 26, 1993